

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated November 10, 2009. Claims 1, 3, 5 to 8, 10, 12 to 14, 100, 101, 103 to 117 are in the application, with Claims 1, 5, 8, 12, 100, 101, 104, 110 and 116 being independent.

Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3, 6 to 8, 10, 13, 14, 100 and 103 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Publication No. 2005/0060198 (Bayne) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,406,426 (Reuss), and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,944,464 (Muranaga). Claims 5 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Bayne and Reuss in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,363,842 (Mishelevich), and further in view of Muranaga. Claim 101 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Bayne, Reuss and Mishelevich in view of Muranaga, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,894,841 (Voges). Reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 5, 8 and 12

Claims 1, 5, 8 and 12 generally concern managing the health of each patient carrying a portable terminal. According to one aspect of the claims, a type of emergency notification is specified by the patient from a plurality of types of emergency notifications, and in accordance with the type of emergency notification, the portable terminal is provided either with communication or with information. The communication provided to the portable terminal uses radio communication to communicate with a medical facility. The information provided to the portable terminal includes information about a medical

facility or a drugstore providing a medicine needed for the identified patient, and the information is selected from stored information based on at least one of the clinical chart and the prescription of the patient.

For example, as discussed beginning at page 34 of the specification, when the portable terminal enters an emergency notification mode, a menu window such as the one shown in Figure 9 is displayed. As shown in Figure 9, the options available for selection by the patient carrying the portable terminal include a plurality of types of emergency notifications. In particular, the types of emergency notifications include contact to a designated doctor, notification of additional medical contents, designation of emergency treatment contents, navigation, urgent speech communication, and the like.

Of course, the present claims are not limited to this embodiment, which is merely provided for purposes of example.

By virtue of the claimed arrangement, it is ordinarily possible for the patient to specify what type of emergency handling should be provided to the portable terminal -- communication or information-- by specifying a type of emergency notification.

Referring specifically to claim language, amended independent Claim 1 is directed to a health management system for managing health of each patient carrying a portable terminal. The portable terminal is arranged to be carried by a patient and includes a display screen, radio communication means for accessing a predetermined radio communication network, storage means for storing personal information of the patient, an input/output device for supporting health management for the patient, and emergency notification means for transmitting to the radio communication network a type of

emergency notification specified by the patient from a plurality of types of emergency notifications. The personal information includes information of a clinical chart of the patient and a prescription of the patient. A database includes personal information storage means for storing the personal information about each patient carrying the portable terminal, medical information storage means for storing information about a medical facility, a drugstore, a medicine and the input/output device, and communication means for communicating with the portable terminal through the radio communication network. The radio communication means transmits part of the personal information stored in the storage means in starting to communicate with the database.

The database further includes identification means for identifying the patient of the portable terminal by collating the part of the information transmitted from the radio communication means with information stored in the personal information storage means, and emergency handling means which is activated when the type of emergency notification is transmitted from the emergency notification means and which provides, in accordance with the type of emergency notification, the portable terminal either with communication or with information. The communication provided to the portable terminal uses the radio communication means to communicate with a medical facility whose information is stored in the medical information storage means. The information provided to the portable terminal comprises information about a medical facility or a drugstore providing a medicine needed for the identified patient, and the information is selected from information stored in the medical information storage means based on at least one of the clinical chart and the prescription of the patient. The portable terminal further comprises position

information acquisition means for acquiring position information of the terminal, and the emergency handling means causes the portable terminal to display information about a route from a position of the portable terminal to a suitable medical facility or drugstore on the display screen on the basis of the position information transmitted from the position information acquisition means.

Amended independent Claim 8 is directed to a method substantially in accordance with the system of Claim 1.

Amended independent Claim 5 is directed to a health management system for managing health of each patient carrying a portable terminal. A portable terminal is arranged to be carried by a patient and includes a display screen, radio communication means for accessing a predetermined radio communication network, storage means for storing personal information of the patient, an input/output device for supporting health management for the patient, and emergency notification means for transmitting to the radio communication network a type of emergency notification specified by the patient from a plurality of types of emergency notifications. The personal information includes information of a clinical chart of the patient and a prescription of the patient. A database includes personal information storage means for storing the personal information about each patient carrying the portable terminal, medical information storage means for storing information about a medical facility, a drugstore, a medicine and the input/output device, and communication means for communicating with the portable terminal through the radio communication network. The radio communication means transmits part of the personal information stored in the storage means in starting to communicate with the database. The

input/output device is an inhaler for discharging a medicine in the form of fine droplets to make the patient inhale the droplets, and the information about the input/output device includes information about handling of the inhaler.

The database further includes identification means for identifying the patient of the portable terminal by collating the part of the information transmitted from the radio communication means with information stored in the personal information storage means, and emergency handling means which is activated when the type of emergency notification is transmitted from the emergency notification means and which provides, in accordance with the type of emergency notification, the portable terminal either with communication or with information. The communication provided to the portable terminal uses the radio communication means to communicate with a medical facility whose information is stored in the medical information storage means. The information provided to the portable terminal comprises information about a medical facility or a drugstore providing a medicine needed for the identified patient, and the information is selected from information stored in the medical information storage means based on at least one of the clinical chart and the prescription of the patient. The portable terminal further comprises position information acquisition means for acquiring position information of the terminal, and the emergency handling means causes the portable terminal to display information about a route from a position of the portable terminal to a suitable medical facility or drugstore on the display screen on the basis of the position information transmitted from the position information acquisition means.

Amended independent Claim 12 is directed to a method substantially in accordance with the system of Claim 5.

The applied art is not seen to disclose or suggest the features of Claims 1, 5, 8 and 12, and in particular is not seen to disclose or suggest at least the features of (i) transmitting to the radio communication network a type of emergency notification specified by the patient from a plurality of types of emergency notifications, and (ii) when the type of emergency notification is transmitted, providing, in accordance with the type of emergency notification, said portable terminal either with communication or with information, wherein the communication provided to said portable terminal uses radio communication to communicate with a medical facility whose information is stored, and wherein the information provided to the portable terminal comprises information about a medical facility or a drugstore providing a medicine needed for the identified patient, and wherein the information is selected from stored information based on at least one of the clinical chart and the prescription of the patient.

Bayne is seen to disclose a system of mobile clinicians, each having a portable computer. When a mobile care entity receives a request for service, the entity selects a mobile clinician and dispatches the mobile clinician to the patient's premises. See Bayne, Abstract. More specifically, when a patient requests medical attention from the mobile care entity, the patient answers predetermined "triage" or "screening" questions. The patient's triage answers are forwarded to the triage processing block 114, and the triage processing block 114 determines whether the patient's condition presents a life-threatening situation. If the patient's situation is not an emergency, the triage processing

block determines the appropriate clinician type and equipment required to treat the patient's condition. See Bayne, paragraphs [0070] to [0073].

Therefore, as understood by Applicants, Bayne discloses that the system itself evaluates the patient's condition in order to determine what type of response is appropriate.

In contrast, Claims 1, 5, 8 and 12 recite that the type of emergency notification is specified by the patient, and that either communication or information is provided to the portable terminal in accordance with the type specified by the patient.

Reuss is seen to disclose a medical monitoring and alert system for monitoring medical therapy delivered to a patient. As understood by Applicants, when a therapy alert condition occurs, a medical alert signal can be sent from the therapeutic device to the patient monitor. The patient monitor transmits the alert condition data to the central monitoring system along with patient physiological parameter information and therapy status data from therapeutic devices such as intravenous infusions pumps, ventilator support devices, hemodialysis machines, or patient warning/cooling systems. The alerts are then reviewed by a caregiver at the central monitoring system, or alternatively can be sent out automatically as selected by the user in a case where the central monitoring system is unmonitored. The alert can be transmitted to an alert system including a number of remote access devices carried or located near caregivers. See Reuss, column 3, line 45, to column 4, line 22.

However, Reuss is not understood to disclose or suggest that the portable

terminal is provided with either communication or with information in accordance with the type of emergency notification specified by the patient.

Mishelevich, Muranaga and Voges have been studied but are not seen to overcome the deficiencies of Bayne and Reuss.

Accordingly, the applied art is not seen to disclose or suggest at least the claimed features of (i) transmitting to the radio communication network a type of emergency notification specified by the patient from a plurality of types of emergency notifications, and (ii) when the type of emergency notification is transmitted, providing, in accordance with the type of emergency notification, said portable terminal either with communication or with information, wherein the communication provided to said portable terminal uses radio communication to communicate with a medical facility whose information is stored, and wherein the information provided to the portable terminal comprises information about a medical facility or a drugstore providing a medicine needed for the identified patient, and wherein the information is selected from stored information based on at least one of the clinical chart and the prescription of the patient.

In light of the deficiencies of the applied art, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 1, 5, 8 and 12 are in condition for allowance and respectfully request the same.

Claims 100 and 101

Amended independent Claims 100 and 101 generally concern providing medical information about health, a medical treatment or a medicine from a database.

According to one aspect, a type of emergency notification specified by the patient from a

plurality of types of emergency notifications is received, and, in accordance with the type of emergency notification, the portable terminal is provided either with communication or with information. The communication provided to the portable terminal uses the portable terminal to communicate with a medical facility whose information is stored. The information provided to the portable terminal includes information about a medical facility or a drugstore providing a medicine needed for the identified patient, and the information is selected from stored information based on at least one of the clinical chart and the prescription of the patient.

Referring specifically to claim language amended independent Claim 100 is directed to an information provision method for providing medical information about health, a medical treatment or a medicine from a database. Patient information stored in the portable terminal and a type of emergency notification specified by the patient from a plurality of types of the emergency notifications are received from a portable terminal carried by a patient through a network, where the patient information includes a clinical chart of the patient and a prescription of the patient. The patient is identified by collating the patient information transmitted from the portable terminal with personal information stored in the database. An emergency handling means is activated which is included in the database and which provides, in accordance with the type of emergency notification, the portable terminal either with communication or with information. The communication provided to the portable terminal uses the radio communication means to communicate with a medical facility whose information is stored in the medical information storage means. The information provided to the portable terminal comprises information which is

about a medical facility or a drugstore providing a medicine needed for the identified patient, and the information is selected from information stored in the medical information storage means based on at least one of the clinical chart and the prescription of the patient. The portable terminal further comprises position information acquisition means for acquiring position information of the terminal, and, in the step of activating, the emergency handling means causes the portable terminal to display information about a route from a position of the portable terminal to a suitable medical facility or drugstore on the display screen on the basis of the position information transmitted from the position information acquisition means.

Amended independent Claim 101 is directed to a method substantially in accordance with the method of Claim 100, but further includes an inhaler which discharges a medicine on the basis of an ink-jet scheme using heat.

The applied art is not seen to disclose or suggest the features of Claim 100 and 101; and in particular is not seen to disclose or suggest (i) receiving a type of emergency notification specified by the patient from a plurality of types of emergency notifications, and (ii) providing, in accordance with the type of emergency notification, said portable terminal either with communication or with information, wherein the communication provided to the portable terminal uses the portable terminal to communicate with a medical facility whose information is stored, and wherein the information provided to the portable terminal comprises information about a medical facility or a drugstore providing a medicine needed for the identified patient, and wherein

the information is selected from stored information based on at least one of a clinical chart and the prescription of the patient.

In light of the deficiencies of the applied art, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 100 and 101 are in condition for allowance and respectfully request the same.

Claims 104 and 110

Independent Claims 104 and 110 have been newly added herein.

Referring specifically to claim language, amended independent Claim 104 is directed to a health management system for managing health of each user carrying a portable terminal. A portable terminal is arranged to be carried by a user and includes a display screen, radio communication means for accessing a predetermined radio communication network, storage means for storing personal information of the user, an input/output device including a medication device for supporting health management for the user, and emergency notification means for transmitting to the radio communication network a type of emergency notification specified by the user from a plurality of types of emergency notifications. The personal information includes information of a clinical chart of the user and a prescription of the user. A database includes personal information storage means for storing the personal information about each user carrying the portable terminal, medical information storage means for storing information about a medical facility, a drugstore, a medicine and the input/output device, and communication means for communicating with the portable terminal through the radio communication network. The

radio communication means transmits part of the personal information stored in the storage means in starting to communicate with the database.

The database further includes identification means for identifying the user of the portable terminal by collating the part of the information transmitted from the radio communication means with information stored in the personal information storage means, and emergency handling means which is activated when the type of emergency notification is transmitted from the emergency notification means and which provides, in accordance with the type of emergency notification, the portable terminal either with communication or with information. The communication provided to the portable terminal uses the radio communication means to communicate with a medical facility whose information is stored in the medical information storage means. The information provided to the portable terminal comprises information which is about a medical facility or a drugstore providing a medicine needed for the identified user, and the information is selected from information stored in the medical information storage means based on at least one of the clinical chart and the prescription of the user.

Amended independent Claim 110 is directed to a method substantially in accordance with the system of Claim 104.

The applied art is not seen to disclose or suggest the features of Claims 104 and 110, and in particular is not seen to disclose or suggest at least the features of (i) transmitting to the radio communication network a type of emergency notification specified by the user from a plurality of types of emergency notifications, and (ii) when the type of emergency notification is transmitted, providing, in accordance with the type of

emergency notification, the portable terminal either with communication or with information, wherein the communication provided to the portable terminal uses radio communication to communicate with a medical facility whose information is stored, and wherein the information provided to the portable terminal comprises information about a medical facility or a drugstore providing a medicine needed for the identified user, and wherein the information is selected from stored information based on at least one of the clinical chart and the prescription of the user.

In light of the deficiencies of the applied art, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 104 and 110 are in condition for allowance and respectfully request the same.

Claim 116

Independent Claim 116 has been newly added herein.

Amended independent Claim 116 is directed to a health management system for providing medical information about health, a medical treatment or a medicine from a database. Information including a clinical chart of a user and a prescription of the user stored in the portable terminal and a type of emergency notification specified by the user from a plurality of types of emergency notifications is received from a portable terminal including a medication device via a network. The user of the portable terminal is identified by collating the received information with personal information stored in the database, and the identification is conducted in response to transmission of the type of emergency notification from the portable terminal, and, in accordance with the type of emergency notification, the portable terminal is provided either with communication or with

information. The communication provided to the portable terminal uses the portable terminal to communicate with a medical facility whose information is stored in the database. The information provided to the portable terminal comprises information about a medical facility or a drugstore providing a medicine needed for the identified user, and the information is selected from information stored in the database.

The applied art is not seen to disclose or suggest the features of Claim 116, and in particular is not seen to disclose or suggest at least the features of (i) receiving a type of emergency notification specified by the user from a plurality of types of emergency notifications, and (ii) providing, in accordance with the type of emergency notification, said portable terminal either with communication or with information, wherein the communication provided to the portable terminal uses the portable terminal to communicate with a medical facility whose information is stored, and wherein the information provided to the portable terminal is information about a medical facility or a drugstore providing a medicine needed for the identified user and which is selected from stored information.

In light of the deficiencies of the applied art, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 116 is in condition for allowance and respectfully request the same.


The other pending claims in this application are each dependent from the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention; however, the individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Turning finally to a formal matter, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner indicate consideration of the documents cited in the Information Disclosure Statements dated October 22, 2009, November 19, 2009 and December 28, 2009.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael K. O'Neill", is written over a horizontal line.

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